

Remarks

In response to the Office action of June 25, 2002, the Applicant has amended the specification and the claims. In the specification, the Applicant has addressed the typographical errors and informalities as requested by the Examiner. Also, Applicant has amended the specification to account for proper trademark usage. In the claims, the Applicant has amended claims 8 and 14.

Restriction Requirement

In the Office Action mailed June 25, 2002, the Examiner noted that the Applicant had made a provisional election of Group I, claims 1-29, 31-39, and 116. Applicant affirms that election. Although claims 30, 40-115, and 117-119, have been withdrawn from prosecution, Applicant requests that it not be required to cancel those claims at this time, pending identification of linking claims during the further prosecution of this case.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112

The Examiner rejected claims 8, 9, 10, 11, 14-16, under 35 U.S.C 112, as being indefinite. In particular the Examiner noted that the word "rapidly" in claim 8 is a relative term, thereby asserting that the claim was indefinite.

In response the Applicant has amended claims 8 and 14 by deleting the word "rapidly" from both claims.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102

The Examiner rejected claims 1-12, 16, 23-26, 28, 29, 31, and 33-37 under 35 U.S.C 102(b) as being anticipated by the reference of Nelson, et al., entitled *The Effect of Temperature on an Ozonated Water Photoresist Strip Process*, published May 23, 2000. In response, Applicant notes that this reference was published after the Applicant's priority date of October 19, 1999, the date of filing of Applicant's provisional application, number 60/160,435, for this case. Hence, said reference is not prior art against this case, and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103

The Examiner rejected claims 14, 15, 27, 32, and 38, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Nelson, et al., entitled *The Effect of Temperature on an Ozonated Water Photoresist Strip Process*, published May 23, 2000, in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,716,458 to Machino. The Examiner also rejected claims 17, 18, 19, 20, and 39 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Nelson et al., entitled *The Effect of Temperature on an Ozonated Water Photoresist Strip Process*, published May 23, 2000, in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,567,444 to Hei et al. The Examiner also rejected claims 17, 18, 21, and 22 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Nelson et al., entitled *The Effect of Temperature on an Ozonated Water Photoresist Strip Process*, published May 23, 2000,

in view of the reference *Decomposition of Ozone in Aqueous Acetic Acid Solutions* by Sehestee et al. In each of these rejections, the principal reference is Nelson, et al., which Applicant has pointed out is not prior art against this case, due to the fact that it was published after Applicant's priority date. Hence, these rejections under 35 U.S.C. should be withdrawn.

Objections

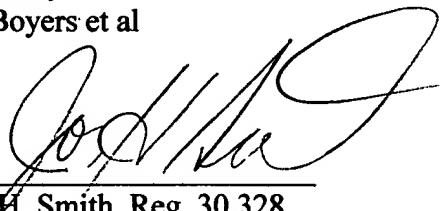
The Examiner objected to Claim 13 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that the claim would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all limitations of the base claim. In response, Applicant believes that claim 1 from which claim 13 depends is an allowable claim, based on the response in this amendment. Therefore, Applicant has not amended claim 13 at this time.

Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement

Since the filing of this case on October 19, 2000, the Applicant has become aware of a number of additional references in the field that may be relevant to patentability. Attached hereto is a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement and copies of the references cited.

With the above amendment, Applicant believes claims 1-29, 31-39, and 116 are clear of the cited references and respectfully requests allowance of these claims and those that depend from them.

Respectfully Submitted
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